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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/883,598	06/18/2001	Pavitra Subramaniam	5306P033	1999

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EXAMINER

LU, KUEN S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2177

DATE MAILED: 10/04/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/883,598

Applicant(s)

SUBRAMANIAM ET AL.

Examiner

Kuen S Lu

Art Unit

2177

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 August 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-25 and 27-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-25 and 27-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by Melmon et al.

(U.S. Publication 2002/0169771, hereafter "Melmon").

As per claims 1, 21 and 27, Melmon teaches the following:

"receiving search criteria entered by a user" (See Fig. 3A, elements 50-55 and Page 5, [0056] wherein Melmon's user enters search terms is equivalent to Applicant's receiving search criteria entered by a user);

"performing a single search on a plurality of databases and at least one attached document for data records matching the search criteria" (See Fig. 3A, elements 54s and Page 5, [0056] wherein Melmon's user checks documents and databases before searching is equivalent to Applicant's performing a single search on a plurality of databases and at least one attached document for data records matching the search criteria); and

"generating search results comprising of the data records matching the received search criteria" (See Fig. 3s and Pages 5-7, [0056], [0063]-[0068] wherein Melmon's search

result generated and displayed is equivalent to Applicant's generating search results comprising of the data records matching the received search criteria).

As per claims 2, 17 and 22, Melmon teaches "receiving at least one search category" (See Fig. 3A, elements 50-55 and Page 5, [0050] and [0056] wherein Melmon's user enters search terms and resources are the search categories is equivalent to Applicant's receiving at least one search category).

As per claims 3, 18, 23 and 28, Melmon teaches "receiving search criteria further comprises receiving at least one search keyword" (See Fig. 3A, elements 50-55 and Page 5, [0051]-[0057] wherein Melmon's user enters search keywords in the search terms is equivalent to Applicant's receiving search criteria further comprises receiving at least one search keyword).

As per claims 4 and 11, Melmon teaches "passing the received search criteria to a Virtual Business Component (VBC) if the user requested the single search to be performed on at least one external database" (See Fig. 1 element 16, Fig. 3A, elements 50-55 and Page 5, [0051]-[0057] wherein Melmon's search criteria and checked databases received at user interface is to pass to search interface manager, the VBC is equivalent to Applicant's passing the received search criteria to a Virtual Business Component (VBC) if the user requested the single search to be performed on at least one external database).

As per claims 5 and 12, Melmon teaches "passing the received search criteria from the Virtual Business Component to a search execution business service" (See Fig. 1 element 12 and 16, Fig. 3A, elements 50-55 and Page 5, [0051]-[0057] wherein

Melmon's the search criteria received at search interface manager, the VBC, is to pass to the integrated query and information retrieval sub-system is equivalent to Applicant's passing the received search criteria from the Virtual Business Component to a search execution business service).

As per claims 6 and 13, Melmon teaches using a search execution business service to search "the at least one database and the at least one attached document" or "the plurality of databases" for "data records matching the search criteria" (See Fig. 1 element 16, Fig. 3A, elements 50-55, Page 5, [0051]-[0057] and Page 2, [0012] wherein Melmon's databases and documents are checked with search terms in the user interface, and the query and information retrieval subsystem accesses databases and retrieves result based on the search criteria is equivalent to Applicant's using a search execution business service to search the at least one database and the at least one attached document or the plurality of databases for data records matching the search criteria").

As per claims 7, 14, 19, 25 and 29, Melmon teaches "sending the search results to a frame so that the search results can be listed on a user interface" (See Figs. 3I-3J wherein Melmon's the user interface is the frame to display the search result is equivalent to Applicant's sending the search results to a frame so that the search results can be listed on a user interface).

As per claims 8, 15, 20 and 30, Melmon teaches "displaying content of a search result selected from the search results listed on the user interface" (See Figs. 3H-3J wherein Melmon's the user interface is the frame to display the search result is

equivalent to Applicant's displaying content of a search result selected from the search results listed on the user interface).

As per claims 10 and 16, Melmon teaches "receiving a search category and a search keyword entered by a user" (See Fig. 3A, elements 50-55 and Page 5, [0056] wherein Melmon's user enters search terms is equivalent to Applicant's receiving a search category and a search keyword entered by a user);

"performing a single search on at least one database and at least one attached document for data records matching the search category and the search keyword" (See Fig. 3A, elements 54s and Page 5, [0056] wherein Melmon's user checks documents and databases before searching is equivalent to Applicant's performing a single search on at least one database and at least one attached document for data records matching the search category and the search keyword); and

"generating search results comprising of the data records matching the search category and the search keyword" (See Fig. 3s and Pages 5-7, [0056], [0063]-[0068] wherein Melmon's search result generated and displayed is equivalent to Applicant's generating search results comprising of the data records matching the search category and the search keyword).

As per claim 24, Melmon teaches "a search adapter to adapt to a selected search engine and to generate search results comprising of the data records matching the received search criteria" (See Fig. 1, elements 15 and 13 wherein Melmon's the integrated query and search interface manager is the adaptor and element 12 is the engine to generate the search result is equivalent to Applicant's a search adapter to

adapt to a selected search engine and to generate search results comprising of the data records matching the received search criteria).

3. The prior art made of record

A. U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0169771

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

B. U.S. Patent No. 6070160

C. U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0147704

D. U.S. Patent No. 6401118

E. U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0156779

F. U.S. Patent No. 6553310

G. U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0138481

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kuen S Lu whose telephone number is 703-305-4894.

The examiner can normally be reached on 8 AM to 5 PM, Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene can be reached on 703-305-9790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

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Kuen S. Lu

Patent Examiner

September 29, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alford Kindred', written in a cursive style.

Alford Kindred

Primary Examiner

September 29, 2004